also recognized B.Ed. (Special Education) for training of teachers in special schools. The programme is implemented through National Institutes, private institutions and through distance learning.

(v) In pursuance of the provisions of Section 30 of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 guidelines have been notified for the preparation of education scheme for persons with disabilities for implementation by the Central Ministries, organizations and autonomous bodies under their control. These guidelines have also been circulated to the State Governments for suitable adoption keeping in view their local requirements.

CII-ASSOCHAM Joint Task Force on affirmative action

1458. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government set up a CII-ASSOCHAM Joint Task Force on affirmative action to suggest ways to stop discrimination in the work place;

(b) if so, whether this Task Force has submitted any draft to Central Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps suggested by the CII-ASSOCHAM Joint Task Force to improve employability of people from the backward classes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) CII-ASSOCHAM has recently released a report titled "Concrete steps by Indian Industry on Affirmative Action for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes". This report is being examined.